

1920.

# The Annual Report

of  
Dr. H. H. BRADLEY,

Medical Officer of Mytholmroyd Urban  
District Council.

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen—

I herewith beg to present my Annual Report for 1920, year ending December 31st.

The estimated civil

## POPULATION,

according to statistics received from Registrar General is 4,191. It is noteworthy that the population of your district has not varied to any considerable degree for many years past. During the year 2 new houses have been erected, these complete with modern sanitation.

## GENERAL CHARACTER OF DISTRICT.

The bed of the valley is about 300 feet above sea level. The district is surrounded by hills which rise 400 to 700 feet above the level of the bed of River Calder, which which flows west to east through the valley. There is an offshoot known as Cragg Valley extending south-west from the Calder Valley. The offshoot winds round to the south, terminating on Blackstone Edge Moor.

The people are on the whole thrifty, clean, well-clad, healthy, and of medium height. The houses on the whole are very clean. The chief occupations of inhabitants are the woollen and cotton mill trades, farming, sewing shops and ready-made clothing establishments.

There is need for further housing accommodation especially amongst working classes.

The streets are fairly wide, and there is sufficient air space.

Action has been taken under Parts 1, 2 and 3 of the House and Town Planning Act 1909.

Notifications of dwelling houses under and for the purpose of Section 17 Act 1909, 115.

No. of houses unfit for habitation, 25.

No. of closing orders made, 0.

No. of houses the defects of which were remedied without closing, 1.

No. of dwelling houses, which, after closing orders, were put in a fit state for habitation, 1.

## VITAL STATISTICS.

Births: Males 28, females 36, total 64, rate 12.88 per 1,000; 1919, 9.76 per 1,000.

Deaths: Males 19, females 14, total 33, rate, 7.87 per 1,000; 1919, 13.64 per 1,000.

Local deaths registered out of district 3, all males.

Total deaths belonging to district 36, rate 8.58 per 1,000.

There were two inquests.

The chief causes of death were: Influenza 1, pulmonary tuberculosis 1, tubercular disease other than pulmonary 1, cancer (malignant disease) 9, organic heart disease 10, bronchitis 4, pneumonia (all forms) 2, nephritis and Bright's disease 1, congenital debility 1, chronic pancreatitis 1, suicide 1, violent death 1, senile decay 1, death by drowning 1.

## AGES AT DEATH.

Under 1 year, 4.

Over 1 year and under 5 years, non-resident 0; resident, males 0, females 0.

Over 5 years and under 15 years, non-resident 0; resident, males 0, females 1.

Over 15 years and under 25 years, non-resident 0; resident, males 4, females 0.

Over 25 years and under 65 years, non-resident 2; resident, males 6, females 5.

65 years and upwards, non-resident 1; resident, males 6, females 8.

Infantile deaths were 4. Rate per 1,000 births, 62.5.

The infantile death causes were: 2 congenital debility, 1 broncho-pneumonia, 1 internal hemorrhage.

The children in the district are on the whole healthy and well nourished and cared for.

Comparison with vital statistics for England and Wales:

Mytholmroyd, 1920: Zymotic death rate 0.00, birth rate 12.88, death rate 7.87, infantile mortality 62.

Mytholmroyd, 1919: Zymotic death rate 0.00, birth rate 9.76, death rate 13.64, infantile mortality 146.

Mytholmroyd, 1918: Zymotic death rate 0.00, birth rate 9.24, death rate 17.25, infantile mortality 76.

Mytholmroyd, 1917: Zymotic death rate 0.00, birth rate 8.26, death rate 17.34, infantile mortality 27.

Cancer (malignant disease) has been more prevalent than for some years. I have advised people to destroy bedding and clothes belonging to such cases. In all cases has disinfection been carried out.

## NOTIFICATIONS.

Diphtheria 1, scarlet fever 10, pneumonia (all forms) 2, erysipelas 2, tubercular diseases other than pulmonary 1.

## WATER SUPPLIES.

A plentiful and pure supply comes direct from Halifax. Formerly it was supplied by Halifax Corporation through Hebden Bridge. It passes through filter beds lined with limestone. The water assessments are increasing, and it is satisfactory to note that inhabitants are taking more Council water than formerly. The water is plumbo-solvent, and therefore ought not to be conveyed to residences for use through lead pipes. There have, however, been no cases of lead poisoning. The rivers in the district suffer no serious obnoxious pollution.

The schools are clean, sanitary, and buildings in good repair. The day schools are inspected.

Milk is supplied by farmers in the district.

The cowsheds are clean and healthy. There has been no action under the Foods and Drugs Act.

Premises where foods are prepared and stored and exposed for sale are clean and satisfactory.

The slaughter houses are 5 in number. They are clean and in good condition. No inspector is appointed having a special certificate for food inspection.

## SEWERAGE AND DRAINAGE.

These are efficient. All the house drains connected with the sewers are trapped and properly ventilated. All houses are practically coupled with the main sewer.

During the year closet conversions have been practically nil. Two tub closets, however, have been converted into w.c.'s, one additional w.c. and one tub closet have been provided. Two privies with fixed receptacles to tub closets. Owing to the situation of some houses in your district it will be some time before there is a reduction in tub closets. No. of tub closets, 13,028.

## EXCREMENT.

From pail closets disposed of into main sewer at Brearley, and partly on Blackstone Edge Moor. It would be satisfactory if every house were fitted with a w.c.

All excreta is removed at night.

All ashpits are emptied weekly.

Three ashpits have been closed, and portable ashbins provided.

The whole of the refuse is carted to 3 tips situated in an outlying part of the district. Offal is still placed in middens, and not buried in trenches as previously suggested. Those using slaughter houses could combine at small cost for disposal of their offal. There are no nuisances left over from last year unabated.

We have no houses let in lodgings, offensive trades, etc.

Infectious diseases, as in previous years, are treated at the Fielden Hospital. Home treatment is also carried out where proper isolation and nursing can be carried out. Houses and rooms are disinfected with Formalin after each case. Killgerm has been supplied free of cost to householders on application for same at the Council Office. No. of rooms disinfected after diseases, 10. There was one house disinfected for non-infectious disease. School-rooms are periodically disinfected as preventive treatment against disease.

TRIPE BOILING is the only offensive trade, and is carried on in an out-district.

BAKEHOUSES are very satisfactory.

I have made an independent inspection of your district, and find sanitation good. I would like to draw your attention to numerous accidents owing to increase of motor traffic. It is an absolute necessity for a playground to be provided for children away from the main roads. I would suggest that some form of recreation ground should be provided as soon as possible, so that in future the dangers of the streets can be minimised.

Yours obediently,

H. H. BRADLEY.



